



MEMO

TO: The Record

DATE: 22 December 1976

FROM: Richard Pipes

LOCATION:

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SUBJECT: Conversation with Mr. David Binder of the New York TimesCC: 

On the evening of December 20 I received a telephone call from Mr. David Binder of the New York Times who wanted to know if I could "talk" about Project B. I told him I could not, whereupon he informed me that he had received a briefing by the Agency on this work. I told him that in view of this fact I would find out the following day whether I could or could not talk with him.

The following day, December 21, during a meeting between Team B and NFIB I discussed this conversation with Mr. ~~John~~ Lehman who told me that he had indeed talked to Mr. Binder and given some general information on the Project "to set the record straight." He said he had no objection to my talking with Mr. Binder in similar terms. Later that afternoon I met Mr. Binder at the airport prior to my departure for Boston and chatted with him about Team B. I avoided any mention of its findings or conclusions and restricted my comments to general background information. I was particularly keen on conveying to him that the Project was not intended to assail the CIA but should be viewed as a form of self-criticism initiated by the DCI and intended to improve the process of national estimates.

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